

New York City Department of Transportation

Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment on Proposed Rules

What are we proposing? The New York City Department of Transportation (“DOT”) is proposing an amendment to Section 4-07 of the Traffic Rules to remove the prohibition on the operation of mopeds (limited use motorcycles) on the Brooklyn Bridge and the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge.

When and where is the hearing? DOT will hold a public hearing on the proposed rule online. Members of the public may access and participate in this hearing online or by telephone. The public hearing will take place on April 14, 2025 at 10AM.

Join through Internet:

- To join the hearing via your browser, either click on the following URL link or copy and paste it into your browser’s address bar.

<https://zoom.us/j/96620228257?pwd=wDNbqC9WQlqL04iPbY5Bd3naL7lqaw.1>

Join Zoom Meeting:

- Meeting ID: 966 2022 8257
- Passcode: 966359
- Then follow the prompts. If you have low bandwidth or inconsistent Internet connection, we suggest you use the phone option below for the hearing.

Join via phone only:

- To join the meeting only by phone, use the following information to connect:
- Phone: 646-518-9805
Meeting ID: 966 2022 8257
Passcode: 966359

How do I comment on the proposed rules? Anyone can comment on the proposed rules by:

- **Website.** You can submit comments to DOT through the NYC rules website at <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us>.
- **Email.** You can email comments to rules@dot.nyc.gov.
- **Mail.** You can mail comments to Erin LaFarge, Director of Safety Policy, New York City Department of Transportation, 55 Water Street, 9th Floor, NY, NY 10041
- **Fax.** You can fax comments to **212-839-7188**
- **By Speaking at the Hearing.** Anyone who wants to comment on the proposed rule at the public hearing must sign up to speak. You can sign up before the hearing by emailing rules@dot.nyc.gov by April 11, 2025 or calling 212-839-6500 and include your name and affiliation. While there will be an opportunity during the hearing to indicate that you would like to provide comments, we prefer that you sign up in advance. You can speak for up to three minutes. Please note that the hearing is for accepting oral testimony only and is not held in a “Question and Answer” format.

Is there a deadline to submit written comments? Yes, the deadline for written comments is April 14, 2025 by 5PM.

Do you need assistance to participate in the Hearing? You must tell the DOT Office of the General Counsel if you need a reasonable accommodation of a disability at the hearing. You must tell us if you need a sign language interpreter. You can tell us by mail at the address given above. You may also tell us by e-mailing at rules@dot.nyc.gov or calling 212-839-6500 by April 7, 2025.

Can I review the comments made on the proposed rules? You can review the comments made online on the proposed rules by going to the website at <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us/>. Copies of all comments submitted online, copies of all written comments, and a recording of the hearing may be requested by emailing rules@dot.nyc.gov.

What authorizes DOT to make this rule? Sections 1043(a) and 2903 of the New York City Charter (City Charter) authorize DOT to make this proposed rule. This proposed rule was included in DOT’s regulatory agenda.

Where can I find the Department of Transportation rules? DOT’s rules are in Title 34 of the Rules of the City of New York.

What laws govern the rulemaking process? DOT must meet the requirements of Section 1043 of the City Charter when creating or changing rules. This notice is made according to the requirements of Section 1043(b) of the City Charter.

Statement of Basis and Purpose of Proposed Rule

The proposed rule that the New York City Department of Transportation (“DOT”) is seeking to promulgate would amend Chapter 4 of Title 34 of the Rules of the City of New York (“Traffic Rules”).

Specifically, the proposed rule would amend Section 4-07(n) of the Traffic Rules to remove the prohibition on the operation of mopeds on the Brooklyn Bridge and the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge while leaving in place the prohibition on the operation of mopeds on the Manhattan Bridge and the Williamsburg Bridge.

Due to the growth in the use of mopeds as an alternative to bicycles, e-bikes, and motor vehicles, there is an increasing need for mopeds to be able to travel directly from Brooklyn and Queens to Manhattan and back. A significant proportion of moped operators are delivery workers, many of whom live in Queens and Brooklyn and travel to and from Manhattan for work. Currently, there is no legal route for these mopeds to travel across the East River, as they are prohibited from operating on both the motor vehicle lanes and protected bicycle and pedestrian paths on all of the roadways that cross the river.

DOT is proposing to allow mopeds to operate on the motor vehicle lanes of the Brooklyn Bridge and the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge as a result of data showing that, while the speed limit on the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge is 35 miles per hour and the speed limit on the Brooklyn Bridge is 30 miles per hour, the traffic speeds on the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge and Brooklyn Bridge are slower (including during the overnight hours) than those on the Manhattan Bridge, Williamsburg Bridge, and the upper roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge. In addition, there are barriers or bridge structures running along the Brooklyn Bridge and the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge that help protect riders in the event of a crash, while the configurations of the Manhattan Bridge, Williamsburg Bridge, and the upper roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge do not provide the same protections. Based on these factors, DOT determined that the Brooklyn Bridge and the lower roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge are most suitable for mopeds.

DOT’s authority for this proposed rule is found in section 2903(a) of the New York City Charter and Title 19 of the New York City Administrative Code.

New material is underlined.

[Deleted material is in brackets.]

Section 1. Subdivision (n) of section 4-07 of chapter 4 of Title 34 of the Rules of the City of New York is amended to read as follows:

(n) *Mopeds restricted.* No moped as defined in 34 RCNY § 4-19(a) is permitted to operate on the [Brooklyn Bridge,] Manhattan Bridge, the Williamsburg Bridge, the upper roadway of the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge, or on any limited access highway, or on any bicycle lane or path.

**NEW YORK CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE OF OPERATIONS
253 BROADWAY, 10th FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007
212-788-1400**

**CERTIFICATION / ANALYSIS
PURSUANT TO CHARTER SECTION 1043(d)**

RULE TITLE: Amendment of Rules Relating to Operation of Mopeds on Bridges

REFERENCE NUMBER: DOT-83

RULEMAKING AGENCY: Department of Transportation

I certify that this office has analyzed the proposed rule referenced above as required by Section 1043(d) of the New York City Charter, and that the proposed rule referenced above:

- (i) Is understandable and written in plain language for the discrete regulated community or communities;
- (ii) Minimizes compliance costs for the discrete regulated community or communities consistent with achieving the stated purpose of the rule; and
- (iii) Does not provide a cure period because it does not establish a violation, modification of a violation, or modification of the penalties associated with a violation.

/s/ Francisco X. Navarro
Mayor's Office of Operations

March 5, 2025
Date

**NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF LEGAL COUNSEL
100 CHURCH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10007
212-356-4028**

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO
CHARTER §1043(d)**

RULE TITLE: Amendment of Rules Relating to Operation of Mopeds on Bridges

REFERENCE NUMBER: 2025 RG 012

RULEMAKING AGENCY: Department of Transportation

I certify that this office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed rule as required by section 1043(d) of the New York City Charter, and that the above-referenced proposed rule:

- (i) is drafted so as to accomplish the purpose of the authorizing provisions of law;
- (ii) is not in conflict with other applicable rules;
- (iii) to the extent practicable and appropriate, is narrowly drawn to achieve its stated purpose; and
- (iv) to the extent practicable and appropriate, contains a statement of basis and purpose that provides a clear explanation of the rule and the requirements imposed by the rule.

/s/ STEVEN GOULDEN
Senior Counsel

Date: March 5, 2025